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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/674,255 | 09/29/2003 | Yuichi Iwase | 09792909-5694 | 1727 |

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SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. BOX 061080
WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER
CHICAGO, IL 60606-1080

EXAMINER

HON, SOW FUN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1772

DATE MAILED: 08/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/674,255 | IWASE, YUICHI | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Sow-Fun Hon | 1772 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/30/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 7-14 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 6/30/06.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

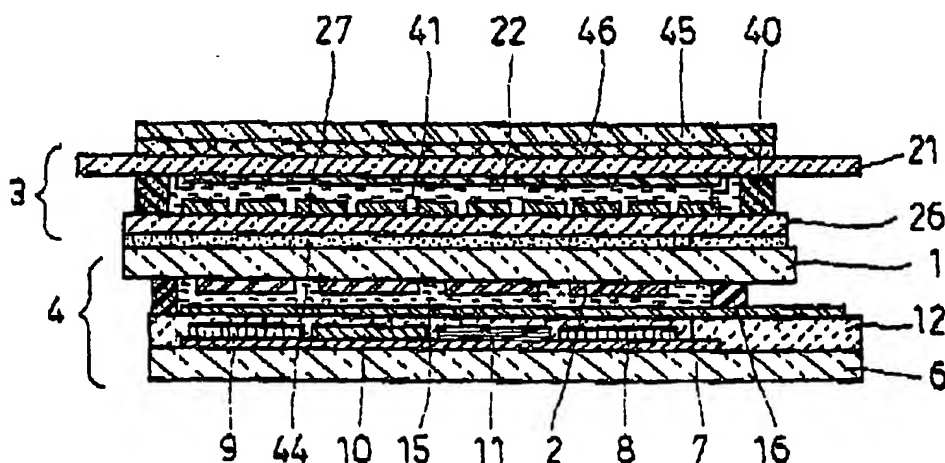
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi (US 6,771,327) in view of Nielson (US 6,331,840).

Regarding claim 1, Sekiguchi teaches a display unit (portable information equipment, column 8, line 40) comprising: a display panel (4, column 8, lines 39-40, Fig.4) including a substrate (6, column 8, lines 47-48, Fig.4) wherein a display device is formed (with the input panel attached thereto, column 3, lines 19-20, Fig.4); and a touch panel which is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4) with an adhesive layer in between (44, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), and detects contact from a finger (input is provided from the surface of the polarizer 45 as the viewer touches the polarizer, column 12, lines 5-10,

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Fig.4), or a pen (input pen 80 onto the touch panel, such input information is recognized by a detection circuit, column 8, lines 1-6).

FIG. 4

Sekiguchi teaches the use of the display panel in portable information equipment (column 5, lines 25-30), but fails to teach that there is a plurality of display devices formed on the substrate of the display panel.

However, Nielson teaches that portable information equipment (personal digital assistant, column 1, 34-37) which have multiple display devices formed on the substrate of the display panel (standard pointing devices utilize a flat, continuous surface which software maps to the displays' real estate, column 1, lines 53-55, where multiple displays underlie a display surface, column 1, lines 58-60) are well known in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have formed a plurality of display devices on the

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substrate of the display panel of Sekiguchi, in order to provide the desired functionality supported by the plurality of display devices, as taught by Nielson.

Regarding claim 2, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel is provided on a side where the display device of the substrate is formed and the display device is sealed by the touch panel, since the touch panel is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), as defined by Applicant's specification (page 18, last paragraph, page 19, first paragraph, Figure 8).

Regarding claim 3, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel has a structure wherein two plastic films (lower substrate 26 of touch panel 3, made up of a polyethyl sulfonate film, column 9, lines 15-17, upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, is a plastic substrate made up of a film, column 9, lines 42-44) in which respective transparent electrodes are formed (lower electrodes 27 made of transparent conductive film, column 9, lines 15-20, upper electrodes 22 made up of transparent conductive film, column 9, lines 42-48) are layered so that the transparent electrodes are placed opposite each other (upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, column 9, lines 42-48). See Fig. 4 of Sekiguchi shown on a prior page.

Regarding claim 4, Sekiguchi teaches that the display panel has a sealing substrate (lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4), which is placed opposite to the display device side of the substrate (6, on the side of the liquid crystal layer 15, column 8, lines 39-49, Fig. 4), and the whole faces of the substrate and the sealing substrate are bonded together with an adhesive layer in

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between (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4 because the double-sided adhesive layer 44 is provided, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4), as defined by Applicant's specification (page 6, Fig.1).

Regarding claim 5, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel (3, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4) is provided on the sealing substrate (lower substrate 26, column 8, lines 39-49, Fig. 4) on the side opposite to the substrate (first substrate 1 of display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4).

3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi in view of Nielson, as applied to claims 1-5 above, and further in view of Siwinski (US 6,6814,642).

Sekiguchi in view of Nielson teaches a display unit, comprising: a display panel including a substrate wherein display devices are formed; and a touch panel which is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel with an adhesive layer in between, and detects contact with a finger or a pen, as discussed above. In addition, Sekiguchi teaches that the display unit is a liquid crystal display unit (abstract). Sekiguchi in view of Nielson fails to teach that the display device has an organic layer including a light emitting layer between a first electrode and a second electrode, and is an organic light emitting device which extracts the lights generated in the light emitting layer from the second electrode side.

However, Siwinski teaches that a display unit can comprise an electroluminescent display such as an organic light emitting diode display (column 2,

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lines 58-60) as well as a liquid crystal display (column 1, lines 20-25), in combination with a touch panel (touch screen, column 1, lines 20-25). Siwinski teaches that the organic light emitting diode display has an organic layer including a light emitting layer (organic light emitter 58, column 2, lines 65-66) between a first electrode (metal cathode layer 62, column 2, line 67), and a second electrode (voltage applied by a voltage source 64 across light emitting elements 52, via cable 67, column 2, line 67, column 3, lines 1-3, Fig. 5), and is an organic light emitting device which extracts the lights generated in the light emitting layer from the second electrode side (voltage applied by a voltage source 64 across light emitting elements 52, via cable 67, column 2, line 67, column 3, lines 1-3, Fig. 5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have used a display device which has an organic layer including a light emitting layer between a first electrode and a second electrode, and is an organic light emitting device which extracts the lights generated in the light emitting layer from the second electrode side, in place of the liquid crystal display of Sekiguchi in view of Nielson, in order to provide the display characteristics provided by the organic light emitting device, as taught by Siwinski.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sow-Fun Hon whose telephone number (571)272-1492. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon, can be reached on (571)272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

S. Hon

Sow-Fun Hon

08/21/06